(*a*) whether they have received memorials in connection with the construction of a bridge across the Alleppey-Shertala Canal in Kommady ; and

(*b*) if so, how many and with what result ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads. Buildings and Irrigation*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Four. The recast estimate and plan received from the Division Officer are being scrutinised in the Chief Engineer's Office.

MR K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : May I know the date on which the recast estimate and plan were submitted by the Division Officer ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : In February 1935, I think.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapzha II*) : May I know the amount of the estimate ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Rs. 8450.

MR, K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : Will the Government be pleased to take up the work without further delay ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads. Buildings and Irrigation*) : It is a question of funds.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) ; May I ask whether the estimate and plan were prepared when the Government had no funds ?

PRESIDENT : That is hypothetical.

Land Revenue administration of the Kalloopara pakuthi.

124 ***MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR** (*Tiruvalla II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have received any representations from the inhabitants of Kalloopara *pakuthi* regarding the grievances of the tax-payers in connection with the land revenue administration of the *pakuthi* ;

(*b*) whether they have received any memorials in that connection from the natives of the *pakuthi* ;

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, the number of memorials received during the last 15 years (1096-1110) ; and

(*d*) the action taken by the Government thereon till the date on which this question is answered ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) :

(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) As the labour involved in collecting the information is out of proportion to its utility, Government do not propose to collect it.

(*d*) Government have ordered that registers and accounts maintained in the Sirkar Pakuthi Cutcherries should be kept in the Kalloopara Pakuthi also; that the Jamabandi officers should inspect the Pakuthi at the time of their annual Jamabandi inspections and that the Tahsildar

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[Mr. K. George.]

should scrutinise these registers and accounts every half-year. Government have also requested the Edappalli Chief to arrange for the registers and accounts of the Pakuthi being correctly maintained, *pokkuvaravu* cases being disposed of as early as possible, and for duplicate receipts being issued and for the settlement register being printed at an early date.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I know the nature of the complaints that were made ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): First of all, they object to the system of taxation in kind. Secondly, they point out that the rent rolls and other account books of the Pakuthis are not being properly maintained. Another complaint that they make is that *pokkuvaravu* is not being effected properly and in time. They also complain that the tax, on lands which they surrendered free for roads, has not been written off. They also say that the system of *ottivilakkam* is still obtaining in many Edavagais. It is also complained that they are experiencing difficulties in the erection of places of public worship

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*) : For how long have the Government been receiving such complaints ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It has been going on for some time. I am not in a position to give the date from which it began.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*) : For how long have the people been complaining about taxation in kind ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I am not in a position to say when it started.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*) : Have the Government conducted any enquiry about the hardships caused to the people on account of the taxation in kind ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government have enquired into every one of these complaints.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I ask whether the system of taxation in kind obtains in any other part of the country ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): We are now dealing with Edavagais.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*) : Are not the Government aware that the system of taxation in kind works as a great hardship to the ryots ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : On the contrary, particulary in these days, it is of real benefit to the ryot. One-half of the tax is recovered at the rate of chs. 6 and the other half at the *nirak* rates.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*) : Then why is it that the people have been complaining about it so long ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is because they do not realise their own advantage. It does happen like that in some cases.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Have the Government suggested to the Chief that it would be better that he introduces the system of taxation in money?

MR. K. GEORGE: (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): They have done it and they have received reports that matters have improved and are still improving.

Cardamom reserve encroachment cases.

125. *MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of cardamom reserve encroachment cases taken up by the Land Revenue authorities in 1110 M. E.; and

(*b*) the number of such cases taken up by the survey party in 1110 M. E.?

MR. K. GEORGE. (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*):

(*a*) 17;

(*b*) 759.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I ask whether it is not due to the negligence of the Land Revenue authorities that there have been so many encroachments?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That cannot be said. These encroachments have been going on for several years.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): Is it not because the Land Revenue authorities did not take up all the cases that were brought to their notice?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not accept that they did not take up the cases that were brought to their notice.

Amendment of the Irrigation Regulation.

126. *MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the steps taken by them on the recommendation of the Minor Irrigation Committee to amend the Irrigation Regulation on the lines suggested by them; and

(*b*) the date on which the report was received and the reason for the delay in carrying out the recommendation?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Draft of an Amendment Bill for the Irrigation Regulation, based on the recommendations of the Minor Irrigation Committee, has been prepared and the same is now under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) The report was received by Government on the 4th October 1931. The Amendment Bill can be taken up for final disposal only after the Irrigation Division Officer, to whom it is now referred for remarks, submits his report after he has gained sufficient experience in the working of the Division.

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